

Chapter 10 - Schools and Library

The Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools and the Williamsburg Regional Library represent public partnerships between the City and the County. These institutions provide invaluable resources to both City and County residents, while helping reduce the duplication of services in the region.



WILLIAMSBURG
JAMES CITY COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools (WJCCPS) serve the students of Williamsburg and James City County with 15 schools: nine elementary, four middle and three high schools. This joint school system was formed in 1953, and is headed by a Superintendent, who is responsible to a seven member school board comprised of two City residents and five County residents. City School Board members are appointed by City Council while County School Board members are elected.

WJCCPS adopted a new Strategic Plan in June, 2012. The Strategic Plan is summarized in its “Values, Vision and Mission.”

Core Values

Individualism, Integrity, Innovation, Accountability and Collaboration

Vision

Pursuing excellence and championing the success of all students.

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Mission

WJCCPS provides each and every student with the knowledge, skills and values to be a lifelong learner, communicate, think critically, work and live productively and contribute constructively to the lives of others. WJCCPS is committed to providing the variety of programs necessary to address the range of students' interests and needs as they grow academically, socially and emotionally.

The five-year contract for the operation of the joint school system was last negotiated with James City County in 2017 for FY18-FY22 and will be renegotiated in 2021. The City pays local operating and capital costs based on a three-year student count average with a 1.14 multiplier applied. The cost sharing for additional schools within the contract period will be negotiated between the City and County at that time.

The Division operates 15 schools: nine elementary schools, (Clara Byrd Baker, Rawls Byrd, D.J. Montague, Norge, Matthew Whaley, James River, Stonehouse, Matoaka and J. Blaine Blayton); four middle schools (Berkeley, James Blair, Toano and Hornsby); and three high schools (Lafayette, Jamestown and Warhill). Three schools Matthew Whaley, Berkeley, James Blair and the administrative offices are located in the City.

Matthew Whaley Elementary School

Built in 1930 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, Matthew Whaley Elementary School is located at 301 Scotland Street and serves a majority of the City's elementary students. The school was renovated in 1997 and has a design capacity of 513 students.



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Berkeley Middle School

Berkeley Middle School, built in 1965 is located on twenty-three acres at 1118 Ironbound Road at the intersection of Ironbound Road and Strawberry Plains Road. The school was renovated and expanded in 1998-99, and has a design capacity of 884 students.



James Blair Middle School

James Blair Middle School, built in 2018 is located at 101 Longhill Road on over eighteen acres of land at the intersection of Longhill Road and Ironbound Road. James Blair is the newest school in the system and has a design capacity of 600 students.



Central Office

Central Office, built in 1955 is located at 117 Ironbound Road adjacent to James Blair Middle School. It was converted into administrative offices in 2010 from a portion of the former school.

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Although City students attend most schools in the system, the majority of City students attend three schools: Matthew Whaley Elementary School on Scotland Street and Berkeley Middle School on Strawberry Plains Road, both of which are located in the City; and Lafayette High School on Longhill Road, located in James City County. Since the figures included in the 2013 Comprehensive Plan for the 2011-2012 school year, total enrollment has grown by 758 students (+6.4%), and the City enrollment has grown by 72 students (+6.9%).

Table 10-1 lists the 2018-2019 enrollment in the various schools within the WJCCPS System.

Future growth in the school system is anticipate to be primarily at the elementary school level. WJCCPS enrolled 11,813 students for the 2018-2019 school year. Of those 5,368 were enrolled in elementary school. These enrollment figures placed five of the nine elementary schools over capacity. As part of the 2019 Capital Improvement Plan, the division has set aside funding for the design of a new elementary school in 2020 with construction to begin in 2021. The location and capacity of the new elementary school have not yet been determined.

Table 10-1:

Name	WMBG Enroll		JCC Enroll		Total
Elementary					
Clara Byrd Baker	88	15.2%	492	84.8%	580
D. J. Montague	1	0.2%	485	99.8%	486
J. Blaine Blayton	8	1.4%	572	98.6%	580
James River	5	1.1%	458	98.9%	463
Laurel Lane	59	11.4%	459	88.6%	518
Matoaka	8	1.1%	739	98.9%	747
Matthew Whaley	369	69.8%	160	30.2%	529
Norge	11	1.6%	683	98.4%	694
Stonehouse	4	0.5%	741	99.5%	745
Elementary Total	553	10.4%	4789	89.6%	5342
Middle					
Berkeley	136	22.4%	472	77.6%	608
James Blair	49	9.1%	489	90.9%	538
Lois Hornsby	18	2.3%	769	97.7%	787
Toano	0	0.0%	712	100.0%	712
Middle Total	203	7.7%	2442	92.3%	2645
High					
Jamestown	4	0.3%	1293	99.7%	1297
Lafayette	230	20.7%	881	79.3%	1111
Warhill	51	3.8%	1302	96.2%	1353
High Total	285	7.6%	3476	92.4%	3761
Total Division	1041	8.9%	10707	91.1%	11748

Source: WJCCPS This chart represents the total active in their responsible divisions students at the end of the 2018-19 school year on the latest SRC upload. This includes Pre-K full and 1/2 time. This does not include any students who were active, served but who left the system anytime during the year or any service only (102)

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Table 10-2 shows Public School enrollment figures by neighborhood from the 2013-2014 school year through the 2018-2019 school year. While the enrollment numbers fluctuate across the City, there are a few neighborhoods that have seen notable growth in the number of students and some that have seen a steady decline.

Between the 2013-14 school year and the 2018-19 school year Merrimac Crossing saw an increase of 50 students. This is the largest increase of any of the neighborhoods in the City. Other neighborhoods with growth include: Shellis Square, Quarterpath, Riverside, Richmond Road Commercial, Parkway Townhomes, and Quarterpath Place.

The largest decrease in the number of students from the 2013-14 school year to the 2018-19 school year was seen in Skipwith Farms with a drop of 16 students and Pinecrest with a decreased of 12 students. Other neighborhoods with a drop in students include: Priorslee, Parkway, Yorkshire, Mimosa, Capitol Landing Commercial, and York Street Commercial.

Map 10-1 shows the growth or decline in students across the city.

(INSERT HEAT MAP) MAP 10-1.

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Table 10-2

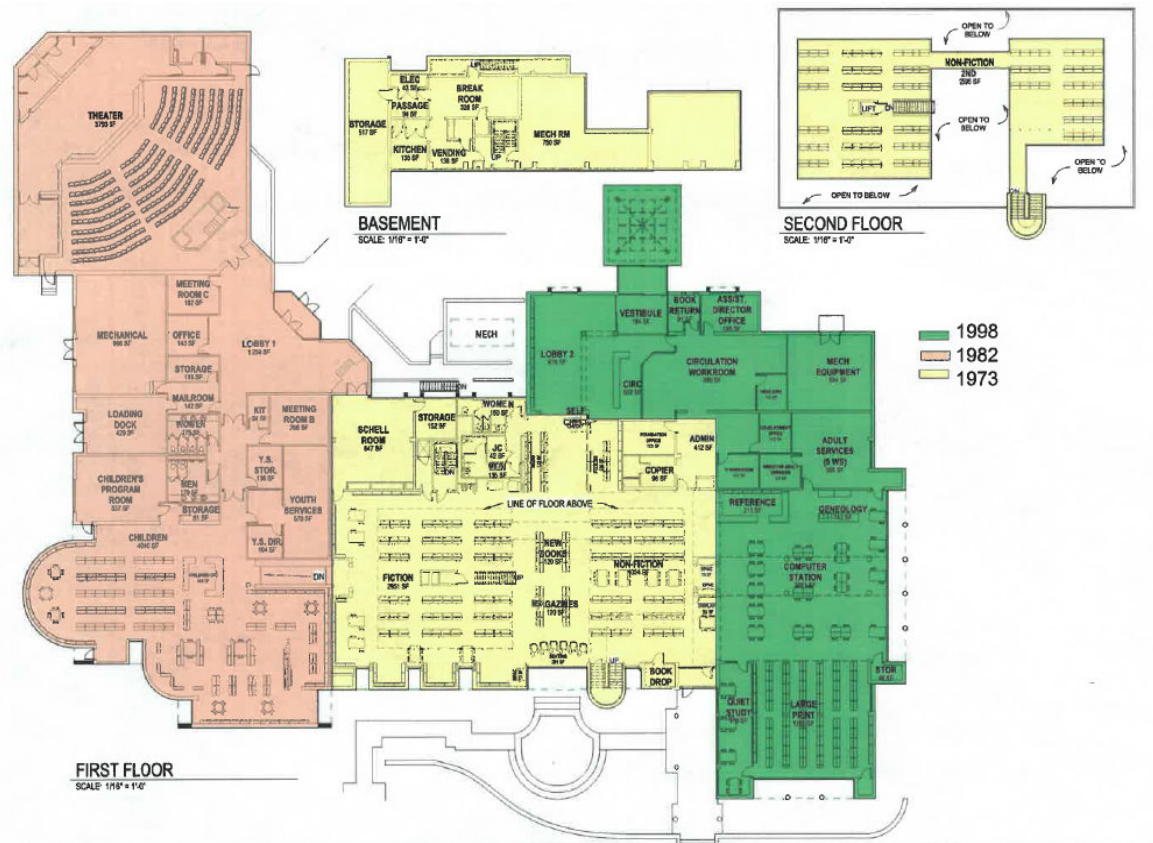
NEIGHBORHOOD	2019-20	2019-18	2018-17	2017-16	2016-15	2015-14	2014-13	NEIGHBORHOOD	2019-20	2019-18	2018-17	2017-16	2016-15	2015-14	2014-13
CLAIBORNE #1		6	8	7	6	5	5	WALNUT HILLS #44		20	23	24	23	9	15
WESTGATE AT WILLIAMSBURG #2		18	18	19	13	15	15	RICHNECK HEIGHTS #45		7	8	4	1	10	4
PATRIOT #3		5	4	7	9	18	18	PEPPERTREE #46		3	8	5	7	2	2
PINEY CREEK #4		17	18	18	19	19	21	JAMESTOWN COMMONS #47		2	2	6	2	0	0
SAVANNAH GREEN #5		19	18	16	21	21	21	VILLAGE GREEN #48		2	4	3	1	0	0
SKIPWITH FARMS #6		58	88	75	79	76	74	WOODLANDS CONDOMINIUMS #49		0	0	0	0	0	0
LONGHILL WOODS #7		2	1	3	4	3	3	CARRIAGE HOMES #50		2	5	3	3	3	2
WALES #8		21	16	18	15	19	17	THE WOODS #51		1	1	2	2	0	0
BRISTOL COMMONS #9		6	5	5	4	2	2	YORKSHIRE #52		3	10	10	5	8	8
HIGH STREET #10		4	1	1	4	8	8	HOLLY HILLS #53		8	6	7	10	8	8
MOUNT VERNON #11		65	63	53	41	29	28	MIMOSA #54		20	19	21	23	29	29
STRAWBERRY PLAINS #12		43	35	37	46	45	45	RICHMOND HILL #55		0	0	0	0	0	0
MATOAKA COURT #13		5	3	2	3	3	3	THE COVES #56		3	2	3	4	4	4
COLLEGE TERRACE #14		2	3	4	4	5	5	PORT ANNE #57		6	5	1	2	3	3
WEST WILLIAMSBURG #15		2	3	3	2	2	2	THE OAKS #58		2	4	0	1	2	2
WEST WMBG HEIGHTS #16		6	5	4	3	5	5	RIVERSIDE #59		23	12	13	5	0	0
BRAXTON COURT #17		1	3	5	4	5	5	MAHONE #60		0	0	0	0	0	0
CRISPUS ATTUCKS #18		2	0	0	0	1	1	RICHMOND ROAD COMMERCIAL #61		33	20	32	31	24	19
HIGHLAND PARK #19		70	67	67	73	75	75	CAMPUS COURT #62		0	0	0	0	0	0
QUEEN MARYS PORT #20		0	0	0	0	3	3	CAPITOL LANDING COMMERCIAL #63		28	31	30	35	36	36
BRANDYWYNE #21		11	5	11	22	18	18	CAPITOL LANDING GREEN #64		0	0	0	0	0	0
MERRIMAC CROSSING #22		158	158	143	136	108	108	CITY GREEN #65		0	0	0	0	0	0
SHELLIS SQUARE #23		31	31	39	37	22	22	JAMESTOWN RD COMMERCIAL #66		2	0	0	0	0	0
COLONIAL TOWNE #24		25	24	27	25	22	22	HENRY STREET SOUTH #67		0	0	0	0	0	0
PRIORSLEE #25		4	7	4	6	12	12	IRONBOUND #68		0	0	0	0	0	0
SECOND ST COMMERCIAL #26		8	16	7	8	9	9	GOV BERKELEY PROFESSIONAL #69		0	0	0	0	0	0
PARKWAY #27		20	18	20	29	26	26	PARKWAY TOWNHOMES #70		9	3	5	0	0	0
BARCLAY SQUARE #28		2	5	7	6	6	6	SKIPWITH TOWNHOMES #71		1	3	5	5	5	7
WYNDHAM #29		6	6	6	7	7	7	STRAWBERRY PLAINS COM #72		0	0	0	0	0	0
COLONIAL PINES #30		24	23	15	23	21	21	YORK STREET COMMERCIAL #73		3	16	11	3	12	12
FOREST HILL AREA #31		3	4	1	1	0	0	MIDTOWN COMMERCIAL #74		2	0	4	5	6	3
PINECREST #32		10	11	17	10	21	22	CHANDLER COURT #75		2	0	2	2	2	2
CAPITOL HEIGHTS #33		13	11	11	18	14	14	POLLARD PARK #76		0	0	0	0	0	0
QUARTERPATH #34		30	29	26	24	22	20	IDLEWOOD #77		0	0	0	0	0	0
POWHATAN PARK #35		13	7	10	8	12	12	TYLER COURT TOWNHOUSES #78		0	0	0	0	0	0
COLONIAL EXTENSION #36		3	2	4	3	5	5	SYLVIA BROWN APARTMENTS #79		50	42	44	45	49	49
HISTORIC AREA #37		11	8	9	11	6	6	ENGLAND STREET SOUTH #80		0	0	0	0	0	0
DOWNTOWN #38		13	13	10	7	7	7	CW SUPPORT #81		0	0	0	0	0	0
CARY-GRIFFIN-NWPORT-BNDRY #39		2	1	1	4	3	3	VILLAGE GREEN NORTH #82		3	2	2	0	0	0
COUNSELORS CLOSE #40		0	0	0	0	1	1	WILLIAM & MARY #83		1	1	4	4	4	4
INDIAN SPRINGS #41		10	8	8	8	9	9	WALSINGHAM #84		0	0	0	0	0	0
BURNS LANE #42		7	10	12	14	10	10	QUARTERPATH PLACE #85		23	13	11	20	12	12
ROLFE ROAD #43		3	4	5	5	6	6	BRENTWOOD APTS #86		11	8	7	6	6	6
TOTAL # OF STUDENTS									1029	1008	996	1007	960	949	

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The Williamsburg Regional Library has two campuses, one on Croaker Road in James City County, and the other in downtown Williamsburg at 515 Scotland Street which contains approximately 40,000 square feet of library space. The library's administrative offices are located in Stryker Center at 412 North Boundary Street adjacent to the downtown library location. The Williamsburg Regional Library System serves not only Williamsburg but James City and York County residents. It also provides access to Swem Library located at William & Mary. In FY 2019, the downtown location is expected to have over 370,000 visits.

The library was constructed in 1973 with two major additions in 1982 and 1998. In 1982, the theater and children's section was constructed. The pyramid entrance off library plaza and the area that now holds the computer stations and large print selection was constructed in 1998. The footprint to the right indicates the original building and two additions.



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A facility review of the Scotland Street location has indicated deficiencies that prevent this existing facilities from functioning as a modern library. These deficiencies include design concerns, infrastructure, accessibility, and security. Users of the library also cite limited parking as a concern.

The results of the facility study and recommendations are being evaluated, with the possibility of renovation, enlargement, replacement of the facility at it current location or construction of a third library in James City County.

The library is a major partner in downtown Williamsburg and City Square. It is important for the library to remain downtown and the city and county need to work together to keep the library downtown. The library greatly enhances the downtown core area and brings individuals and families to Williamsburg to not only visit the library but to shop, dine and enjoy other aspects of downtown Williamsburg.



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RECOMMENDATIONS:

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1. Assist in the planning and location selection for a new elementary school.
2. Monitor capacity at Matthew Whaley School to eliminate the use of temporary classroom trailers (learning centers) in the next five years with the construction of another elementary school.
3. Continue to provide support and funding to existing schools.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

1. Continue to support the library as a community center in downtown.
2. Participate in the facility study to determine a path forward to making the library a more functional 21st century space.
3. Work with James City County to either renovate or construct an addition on the existing library or construct a new library downtown.